expansion of Bhubaneswar Airport as per the earlier decisions.

(v) Need to take immediate remedial steps to check the spread of the mysterious disease affecting Arancanut trees in villages of Jainitia Hills District, Meghalaya

SHRI PETER G. MARBANIANG (Shillong): The cultivators of Villages of Dawki, Muktapur, Sobkha, Nongtalang, Lamin and many other villages (in border of Bangladesh) of Jaintia Hills District of Meghalaya depend on the produce of Aracanuts (kwai) for their livelihood. In recent months, a very strange disease has attacked the trees and has destroyed thousands of arcanut trees. Leaders of the area apprised former Agriculture Minister about this strange disease and its bad effect, during his visit to Shillong in March, 1991. However, till date no steps have been taken. I urge upon the Government to take immediate remedial steps and provide relief to the effected cultivators of the area.

[Translation]

(vi) Need to review the policy of Rural electrification.

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to the following important matter under Rule 377:

"The implementation of the work relating to electrification in rural areas in the country is being done under the Rural Electrification Programme under the directions of the Central Government. Under the existing instructions if there is even one electric connection in a village whether it is a private tubewell or a Government tubewell connection any other connection, whether the aforesaid connection has been cut off or the electric line is passing through the villages, such village is treated to have been electrified. The result is that the number of electrified villages go up in the papers, but in fact. they do not get the benefits of electrification.

I would urge the Central Government to review the Rural Electrification Programme and issue such instructions which could help in electrification of villages in reality. Instructions so issued should inter-alia stipulate at least 80 per cent population of a village, which should compulsorily include clusters belonging to the Scheduled Castes and backward classe, should be brought under electrification."

(vii) Need to provide STD facility at Erattupetta Telephone Exchange in Kottayam district, Kerala

[English]

SHRI P. C. THOMAS (Mavattupuzha): Eratupetta Telephone exchange in Kottayam district in Kerala was to be given STD facility before the end of Marchg, 1991. All technical works were done and STD code was allotted and published in the telephone directory. It is learnt that though no STD is available, ghost bills have been issued to the people against the allotted code. What happened to the promised STD in this exchange is not yet known. I request that immediate orders be given to commission STD for Erattupetta.

[Translation]

(viii) Need to ensure early payment of wages to the workers of Narkheda Railway Station in Nagpur

SHRI TEJSINGRAO BHONSLE (Ramtek): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to raise the following important matter under Rule 377:

"The Railway workers employed in the construction wing at Narkhed railway station in Nagpur district have not been paid their wages since 31.5.91. As a result thereof, they are facing starvation. This has caused a great resentment among the workers. If the Ministry of Railways do not intervene immediately, the situation will become very explosive. I would urge the Ministry of Railways to act immediately in order to give justice to the workers."

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only the approved text will go on record.